Complaints of rigging in recent bye-elections

1139. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been complaints of rigging in certain constituencies during the recent bye-elections to Lok Sabha and State Assembly constituencies; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Such complaints are looked into by the Election Commission, wherever necessary, in consultation with the appropriate authorities in the State Governments concerned.

A statement containing the gist of such complaints and the action taken thereon by the Election Commission is laid on the able of the Sabha. [*See Appendix CXLVII, Annexure No. 44*]

Brainwashing of Indians in Pak Jails

1140. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 4th May, 1988 under the caption "Brainwashing of Indians in Pak Jails";

(b) whether it is a fact that Pakistan is torturing the Indian prisoners who are languishing in different jails there;

(c) whether Government propose to take up the matter with the Pakistan Government if so, by when; and

(d) what other efforts Government propose to take to save the Indian prisoners from torture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some cases of ill-treatment of Indian prisoners in Pakistani jails have come to our notice.

(c) Government have already protested to the Government of Pakistan against the ill-treatment of Indian prisoners in Pakistani jails.

(d) Efforts are being made to secure the early repatriation of Indian nationals in Pakistani jails.

Purchase of Fighter Planes by Pakistan from Canberra

1141. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 19th May, 1988; under the caption 'Pak buying fighter planes from Canberra';

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government in this regard; and

(c) what precautionery steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government keeps a constant watch overa all such developments which could have an adverse impact on our security and takes appropriate ocunter measures. Providing further details would not be in the public interest.

Irradiation of food stuff for Export

1142. SHRI RAM AWADESH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have given clearance for

irradiation of a few articles of food and spices or export purposes at present and if so, full details thereof indicating items and sources and doses of irradiation; and

(b) the number of units set up/proposed to be set up during the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has given clearance for using irradiation for the decontamination of spices and elimination of pathogens present in frozen sea foods. This clearance is only for consignments meant for export.

The radiation emitted by cobalt-60 source is used for this purpose. The irradiation doses used for decontamination of spices and for eradication of pathogens in frozen sea foods are 10 kgy. and 5 kgy (kilogray) respectively.

At present the irradiation facilities available with Bhabha Atomic Research Centre are being used. Commercial facilities for irradiation of spices and frozen sea foods are being designed.

विदेशों द्वारा पाकिस्तान को सप्लाई किए गए शस्त्र तथा शस्त्र सामग्री

1143. **श्री राम चन्द्र विकल :** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि कई बाहरी देशों द्वारा पाकिस्तान को युद्धपोतों तथा भारी मात्रा में विभिन्न प्रकार के शस्त्रों तथा शस्त्र सामग्री की सप्लाई की जा रही है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इन देशों के नाम क्या है और गत दो वर्षों के दौरान इन देशों में से प्रत्येक द्वारा किस-किस प्रकार के तथा कितनी मात्रा में शस्त्रों तथा शस्त्र सामग्री की सप्लाई की गयी ;

(ग) उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया थी ;

(घ) क्या भारत ने इस संबंध में इन देशों में से किसी को अपनी चिन्ता तथा विरोध प्रकट किया है ; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और उसका क्या परिणाम निकला है?

रक्षा मंत्रालय में रक्षा उत्पादन और पूर्ति विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री चिंतामणि पाणिग्रही) : (क) जी, हां।

(ख) से (ङ) पाकिस्तान द्वारा अपनी वास्तविक रक्षा आवश्यकताओं से बहुत अधिक अत्याधुनिक हथियारों को प्राप्त करना भारत सरकार के लिये एक गम्भीर चिन्ता का विषय है, क्योंकि इससे न केवल इस क्षेत्र में सुरक्षा के वातावरण पर प्रभाव पड़ता है, बल्कि सीमित संसाधनों का उपयोग विकास कार्यों पर करने की बजाय रक्षा उपायों पर करना पड़ता है। भारत सरकार ने हथियार सप्लाई करने वाले देशों की सरकारों को अपनी चिन्ता से बार-बार अवगत कराया है। दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि कुछ देश पाकिस्तान को अत्याधुनिक हथियार देते जा रहे है। इस मामले में आगे और ब्यौरे देना राष्ट्रहित में नहीं होगा।

केन्द्रीय मंत्रियों प्रतिनिधिमंडलों की विदेशों की यात्रा

1144. **श्री राम चन्द्र विकल :** क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 1 जनवरी से 15 जुलाई, 1988 की अवधि के दौरान कुछ केन्द्रीय मंत्रियों